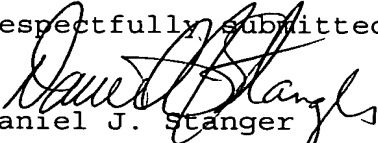


REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection. Claims 2-3, 6-8, 10-13, 15-21, and 24-27 are now pending. Claims 1, 4-5, 9, 14, 17, and 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Linville et al., U.S. 6,026,075. Claims 2-3, 6-8, 10-13, 15-16, 18-21, and 24-27, were deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

Without admitting to the propriety of the rejection, the Applicants have amended these allowable claims either by making them independent, or by making them dependent upon an allowable independent claim. Therefore, the Applicants believe that all pending claims are in allowable condition.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Daniel J. Stanger  
Registration No. 32,846  
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1120  
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